

DESCRIPTION. *Plants* acaulescent or with stems 50 cm. long, increasing freely from shoots and forming dense groups sometimes a few metres across.

Leaves about 24, densely rosulate, lanceolate, 35–40 cm. long, 7–8 cm. broad at base, suberectly spreading and forming rather compact rosettes about 40 cm. across; *upper surface* deep olive-green to reddish-bronze without spots or markings, flat low down slightly concave upwards; *lower surface* convex, more or less as the upper surface except sometimes with a few small elongated pale spots near base; *margins* sinuate-dentate, armed with pale-brownish pungent deltoid teeth up to 5 mm. long, 10–15 mm. apart, the leaf apex a spine.

Inflorescence a many-branched panicle about 60 cm. high, about 10-branched from below the middle, the branches slender, the lowest with 2–3 branchlets, producing a total of about 25 racemes.

Peduncle minutely white-flecked, with a powdery bloom, basally plano-convex and 14 mm. broad.

Racemes laxly flowered, cylindric-acuminate, about 7 cm. long, 4 cm. diam., the buds rather globular.

Pedicels 8–10 mm. long, nutant at apex.

Bracts very small, ovate-acute, 3 mm. long and broad, 3-nerved.

Perianth deep brownish-vinaceous (R.C.S. XXXIX) with a powdery bloom, cylindric-trigonus, straight, 20–25 mm. long, 7 mm. diam. across the ovary, trigonus upwards, the mouth open; *outer segments* free for 10 mm., obscurely 3-nerved; *inner segments* free but dorsally adnate to the outer to the middle, with a broad large vinaceous keel which is raised and separates the margins of the outer segments by 1 mm. or more.

Filaments very pale lemon, with their *anthers* in turn exerted 3–4 mm. *Stigma* at length exerted 4 mm. *Ovary* pale-green, 4 mm. long, 2 mm. diam.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am greatly indebted to:

Mr. George Classen of Nairobi, Kenya, for plants of this new species with photographs and much data, also for plants of several other East African species of *Aloe*, some of which are new and awaiting description.

Dr. L. E. Codd, Chief, Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria, for the facilities of the National Herbarium, and for many photographs from my negatives.

The South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Pretoria, for travelling and other grants that have enabled me to investigate the *Aloes* in most parts of Africa.

A NEW ALOE FROM TANZANIA

G. W. REYNOLDS

(With Plates XLII and XLIII)

Aloe leachii Reynolds. Species nova, affinis *A. secundiflora* Engler, sed tota planta minore, racemis laxioribus, floribus brevioribus differt.

Planta succulenta, acaulis vel breviter caulescens. *Folia* c. 20, rosulata, usque 35 cm. longa, 6 cm. lata, sensim attenuata; *supra* basi plana, superne leviter canaliculata, viridula, rubescentia; *subtus* convexa; marginibus dentibus deltoideis brunneis, 5 mm. longis, 10—20 mm. distantibus armata.

Inflorescentia paniculata, 7—10-ramosa, usque 1 m. alta.

Racemi laxi, subsecundiflores, 15—20 cm. longi, 7 cm. diametro. *Pedicelli* 6—8 mm. longi. *Bractee* parvae, ovato-acutae, 5 mm. longae, 4 mm. latae, 3—5-nervatae.

Perianthium coccineum, cylindrico-trigonum, 30 mm. longum, circa ovarium 7 mm. diam.; *segmenta exteriora* per 15 mm. libera; *interiora* latiora, carinata. *Antherae* per 1—2 mm. exsertae. *Stigma* demum 2—3 mm. exsertum. *Ovarium* viridulum, 6 mm. longum, 3 mm. diam.

TANZANIA (TANGANYIKA). Eastern Province, 18 miles west of Bagamoyo Ferry on road westwards to Msata, cult. "Farview" Greendale (Rhodesia), fl. 26 May 1963, Leach et Brunton 10178 holotype (PRE); cult. Mbabane, Swaziland fl. 15 Aug. 1964, Leach 10178 in Reynolds 10125, (K).

A. leachii is named after Mr. L. C. Leach of Greendale, Salisbury, who discovered plants about 18 miles inland (westwards) from Bagamoyo Ferry, Tanzania (Tanganyika) on the road to Msata, more or less in open woodland, at an altitude of about 900 ft.

A. leachii is allied to *A. secundiflora* Engler in having widely spreading inflorescence branches, and more or less subsecund flowers, but differs in being a smaller plant, with much laxer racemes that are not so markedly secund, and in having smaller flowers that are not, or only very slightly, minutely white-flecked. In *A. leachii* the terminal raceme is ascending with the flowers more evenly distributed around the axis; the flowers also have a slightly striped effect compared with those of *A. secundiflora*.

DESCRIPTION. Plant succulent, acaulous or shortly caulescent, growing singly or with a few offshoots from base forming small groups.

Leaves about 20, rosulate, suberectly spreading, up to 35 cm. long, 6 cm. broad at base, gradually narrowing to an acute apex; *upper surface* flat low